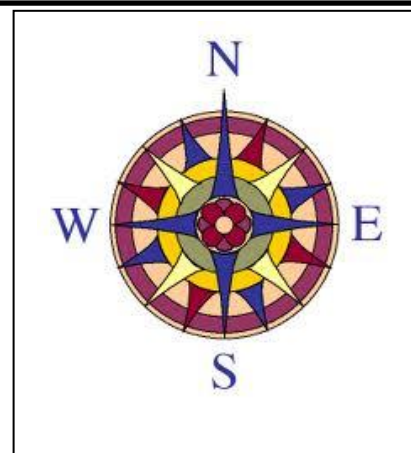




Site 05: Hangar 1,2,3 and 4

N 40° 35' 12.98"

W 73° 53' 45.92"



In 1928 work began to transform the marshes and waterways around Barren Island, what was then considered “wasteland,” into New York City’s first municipal airport. Dedicated in May of 1931 these Southern hangars (1-4), Administration Building/Terminal (today’s Ryan Visitors Center) and the four Northern Hangars (5-8) formed the structures that would support this world class airport. The construction of the airport’s runway channels, and seaplane base on Jamaica Bay coincided with the never realized plans to develop Jamaica Bay into a large commercial port for New York City. Nonetheless, it was from these hangars, that record breakers and barnstormers, men and women, made history as the first, fastest, highest and farthest flyers of their time. Imagine Wiley Post’s first solo circumnavigation of the globe, Jackie Cochran’s cross country speed record, or “Wrong Way” Corrigan’s notable trip across the Atlantic. The 1930’s Golden Age of Flight is evidenced by these brick hangars.

Visit Instructions: The City of New York, Dept of Docks, similar to New York City’s current Port Authority, managed the Airport. The just visible writing on the facades of these hangars allows us to see who the past occupants were. Please note one of these occupants.